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Application No. 10/039,311
Amendment B

REMARKS

Responsive to the Office Action mailed September 7, 2005, Applicants provide the following. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-15 and 23-30 are allowable, and that claims 17, 20-21, 32 and 37 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 15 and 17 have been amended to correct minor typographical errors. Claim 16 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 20, and claim 31 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 32. Claims 20 and 32 have been canceled. Thirty-five (35) claims remain pending in the application: Claims 1-19, 21-31 and 33-37. Reconsideration of claims 1-19 and 21-31, 33-37 in view of the amendments above and remarks below is respectfully requested.

By way of this amendment, Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned at (858) 552-1311 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

References Cited by Applicants and Not Considered by Examiner

1. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner consider the Information Disclosure Statement references submitted to the Office on April 26, 2004 a copy of which is attached herewith. A very similar list of U.S. Patent references was submitted to the Patent Office in an information disclosure statement (IDS) on December 13, 2002, and the listed references were considered by the Examiner. However, two additional references were submitted in the April 26, 2004 IDS, specifically: U.S. Patent No. 5,120,499 (Baron) and U.S. Patent No. 5,166,528 (Le Vay). Therefore, consideration of all the IDS references submitted on April 26, 2004 is respectfully requested.

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Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

2. Claims 16, 18, 19, 22, 31 and 33-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,063,890 (Baron).

Independent claim 16 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 20 that has been identified as containing allowable subject matter, and independent claim 31 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 32 that has similarly been identified as containing allowable subject matter. Therefore, independent claims 16 and 31 are now in condition for allowance, as the Baron patent fails teach at least each element of amended claims 16 and 31.

Furthermore, the dependent claims 18, 19, 22, and 33-36 are also not anticipated by the Baron patent. The dependent claims 18, 19, and 22, which depend from amended claim 16, are also not anticipated by the Baron patent at least due to their dependence on amended claim 16. The dependent claims 33-37, which depend from amended claim 31, are also not anticipated by the Baron patent at least due to their dependence on amended claim 31.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Applicants again thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-15 and 23-30 are allowable and that claims 17, 20-21, 32, and 37 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 20 and 32 have been canceled and substantially all of their limitations have been amended into independent claims 16 and 31, respectively, as discussed above in paragraph 2. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims 1-19, 21-31 and 33-37 are in condition for allowance.

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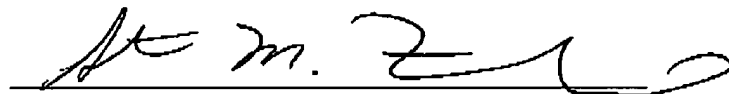
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CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the above amendments and remarks place the pending claims 1-19, 21-31 and 33-37 in a condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 7, 2005



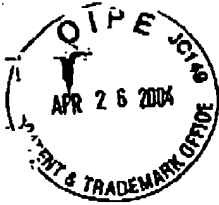
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Attachment: copy of the April 26, 2004 IDS (4 pgs.)

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**Electronic Filing System (EFS) Data
Electronic Patent Application Submission
USPTO Use Only**

EFS ID: 59758
Application ID: 10039311
Title of Invention: Sterilization of packages and
their contents using light
First Named Inventor: Reginald Clark
Domestic/Foreign Application: Domestic Application
Filing Date: 2001-10-26
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Submission Type: Information Disclosure
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Confirmation number: 7387
Attorney Docket Number: 70625

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TRANSMITTAL

Electronic Version v1.1

Stylesheet Version v1.1.0



Title of Invention	Sterilization of packages and their contents using light	
Application Number: 10/039311  Date: 2001-10-26 First Named Applicant: Reginald Clark Confirmation Number: 7387 Attorney Docket Number: 70625		
<p>I hereby certify that the use of this system is for OFFICIAL correspondence between patent applicants or their representatives and the USPTO. Fraudulent or other use besides the filing of official correspondence by authorized parties is strictly prohibited, and subject to a fine and/or imprisonment under applicable law.</p> <p>I, the undersigned, certify that I have viewed a display of document(s) being electronically submitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, using either the USPTO provided style sheet or software, and that this is the document(s) I intend for initiation or further prosecution of a patent application noted in the submission. This document(s) will become part of the official electronic record at the USPTO.</p>		
Submitted by:	Elec. Sign.	Sign. Capacity
Julie A. Hopper Registered Number: 50869	/jah/	Agent
Documents being submitted	Files	
us-ids	IDSb-usidst.xml	
	us-ids.dtd	
	us-ids.xsl	
Comments		

APP_ID=10039311

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ELECTRONIC INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Electronic Version v18
 Stylesheet Version v18.0



Title of
Invention

Sterilization of packages and their contents using light

Application Number: 10/039311



Confirmation Number: 7387

First Named Applicant: Reginald Clark

Attorney Docket Number: 70625

Art Unit: 2881

Search string: (4063890 or 4282863 or 4304996 or 4464336
 or 4469835 or 4540416 or 4629658 or 4657540
 or 4866282 or 4871559 or 5122126 or 5120499
 or 5129894 or 5166528 or 5324233 or 5494155
 or 5643464 or 5768853 or 5786598 or 5925885
 or 6099522).pn.

US Patent Documents

Note: Applicant is not required to submit a paper copy of cited US Patent Documents

Init	Cite.No.	Patent No.	Date	Patentee	Kind	Class	Subclass
	1	4063890	1977-12-20	Baron			
	2	4282863	1981-08-11	Beigler et al.			
	3	4304996	1981-12-08	Blades			
	4	4464336	1984-08-07	Hiramoto			
	5	4469835	1984-09-04	Laurin			
	6	4540416	1985-09-10	Hattori et al.			
	7	4629658	1986-12-16	Lucas			
	8	4657540	1987-04-14	Iwamoto et al.			
	9	4866282	1989-09-12	Miripol et al.			
	10	4871559	1989-10-03	Dunn et al.			
	11	5122126	1992-06-16	Sakakiyama			
	12	5120499	1992-06-09	Baron			
	13	5129894	1996-07-14	Sommermeier et al.			
	14	5166528	1992-11-24	Le Vay			
	15	5324233	1994-06-28	Owensby et al.			

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	16	5494155	1996-04-27	Evens et al.
	17	5643464	1997-07-01	Rhee et al.
	18	5768853	1998-06-23	Bushnell et al.
	19	5786598	1998-07-28	Clark et al.
	20	5925885	1999-07-10	Clark et al.
	21	6099522	2000-08-08	Knopp et al.

Remarks

Note: Remarks are not for responding to an office action.

Applicants note that an electronic IDS was previously filed on December 12, 2002. Because the December IDS has not been entered on PAIR, it is assumed that the PTO may not have received the aforementioned electronic IDS. Therefore, Applicants have recited herein the references previously cited in the December 22, 2002 electronic IDS for the Examiner's convenience.

Signature

Examiner Name	Date